

# Lydiard Millicent CE Primary & Ridgeway Farm CE Academy

Believe ~ Learn ~ Grow



## Keeping in Touch Letter

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to start by saying thank you from the Lydiard and Ridgeway staff teams to our parental community. It has been wonderful communicating with so many families via the class Zoom sessions this week and we know that families have been juggling work, home learning, finances, health worries and many other things on top of the normal day-to-day routines. We know that everyone is seeking some hope and an indication of when things may change and it is incredibly hard to not be able to give you those certainties. Our CEO, Jez Piper, has written to all schools within our Trust following on from his letter on Monday and we have attached that to today's ParentMail. I do appreciate that waiting for information and clarity can be frustrating, but we are making decisions that will impact on the lives of children and adults and those decisions cannot be made without robust risk assessments. We are working incredibly hard to assess and plan and we will provide details ahead of any changes. For now, the current arrangements remain in place.

### Remote Learning

Thank you for sharing photos of your children's learning - these are now being shared on the school websites (Lydiard - class gallery; Ridgeway - class pages).

### Half Term Break

Please note the provision at Ridgeway Farm CE Academy will be closed over the May Half term week so that the school can be deep cleaned.

### ParentMail Key Worker Form

You will have received a form to complete on ParentMail to advise us if either of your child's parents/carers are keyworkers. We would be very grateful for this form to be completed as soon as possible.

### Message from our Safeguarding Team

Lockdown 'stress and anxiety' has led to a sharp spike in domestic abuse cases with up to a 60% increase in emergency calls compared to April last year. Family, friends and neighbours can be a way to get support that you need. Can you FaceTime or call someone you trust? Can you talk to them about what you are experiencing and what your concerns are? Do you have a code word/phrase to let someone know that it is not safe to talk or ask someone to phone the police? Could you set up with someone you trust a check in call so you know that someone will contact you at certain times of the week?

**No one should feel unsafe in their own home –**

If you're a victim of domestic abuse help is available 24/7

Spiltz – 01225 775276 (weekdays)  
Swindon Domestic Abuse Support Service –  
out of hours call 01793 610 610

#STOPABUSE

A poster with a blue background and a silhouette of a person in distress. It contains text about domestic abuse support services and logos for the police, PCC, and Wiltshire Council.

01793 770571 ~ [www.lydiardmillicentceps.org](http://www.lydiardmillicentceps.org) ~ [admin@lydiardmillicentceps.org](mailto:admin@lydiardmillicentceps.org)

01793 677471 ~ [www.ridgewayfarmcea.org](http://www.ridgewayfarmcea.org) ~ [admin@ridgewayfarmcea.org](mailto:admin@ridgewayfarmcea.org)

## Support

I have also attached some ideas you might like to use for praying together as a family. You will also find, on each school website, a link to a script for next week's collective worship linked to this term's value of Service along with a short film clip.

Don't forget that if you have any worries, including financial ones, you should get in touch. You can email either admin@ address or call us on 01793 677471 during school hours. I know for many families it must feel very lonely but we are here to help if you need anything and our team of staff are still working very hard to support remote learning and onsite provision for the children of key workers.

I'm sure that you have seen some of the articles in the press about teachers essentially being on holiday and I can assure you that we haven't ever experienced anything that felt less like a holiday than this. In fact, teachers are probably working longer hours, as many of you will be, to juggle everything within their days. I am very proud of how the team has responded to this ever-changing situation. They too are missing our school family being together. The teaching team have absolutely loved being able to engage with their classes via the Zoom sessions and the attendance at these has been incredibly high so please watch out for the next set of invites via ParentMail.

Thank you for your continued support and patience.

With very best wishes,

Mrs C Luce

Headteacher